



A Monthly Publication for Temple Beth-El,
Las Cruces, New Mexico

JULY 2016 (SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5776)



Shabbat Services (See Page 2)

• **Friday, July 1-FAMILY
SHABBAT SERVICE at
6:00 pm, including our
annual Great American
Sing-Along**

**followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck
dinner at 6:50 pm.**

- **Friday, July 8—Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm**
- **Friday, July 15—Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm**
- **Friday, July 22—Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm**
- **Friday, July 29-Shabbat Service
for Renewal of Spirit at 7:00 pm**

Saturdays

**Talmud Study at 9:00 am
Shabbat Service at 10:15 am, followed by
a potluck Kiddush**

Forum on Poverty in Las Cruces Second in a Series

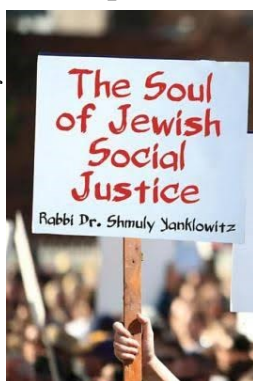
**on Sunday, July 24 at 1:30-4:30 pm
at Temple Beth-El**

More than charity, *tzedakah* is really about the pursuit of justice in this world. One way of achieving this is through charity, and the helping of other people to support themselves and become independent. It is not done out of the goodness of one's heart. It is done because it is the right thing to do, the just thing to do.

With this fundamental pillar of Judaism in mind, the Social Action committee of Temple Beth-El is sponsoring a second forum on poverty on Sunday afternoon, July 24 at 1:30-4:30 PM. Panelists will include Dr. Hugo Vilchis, Executive Director, Burrell Institute for Health Policy and Research; Ryan Steinmetz, Network Volunteer Coordinator for the city of Las Cruces; Daniel Valverde, Outreach Director for NM Appleseed, a program for feeding the hungry supported by Mazon; a representative from Mesilla Valley CASA (court appointed special advocates) who works with foster children to assure that their voices are heard in court; and a representative from the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico. The goal of this forum is to present participants with the multitude of opportunities available to provide service and volunteerism in Las Cruces and Dona Ana County. This presentation will allow for round table discussions with panelists after a brief presentation by each, so that questions and issues can be more informally discussed.

“Yes!” to Social Justice— An Orthodox Perspective—PART TWO Monday, July 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Rabbi Karol will lead a second installment of Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz's book, *The Soul of Jewish Social Justice*, presenting central ideas from his book that resonate with the work that has emerged from the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist Movements. Join us for a conversation that may challenge your current perspectives or enable you to deepen your own approach to applying Judaism's values to the world around us. The first conversation was far-reaching and lively!



Please respond to Rabbi Karol if you plan to attend by calling the Temple at 575-524-3380 or emailing rabbi@tbelc.org.

Worship Schedule

Please note: All 7:00 pm services will include either a Torah reading and a sermon/d'var torah, a brief discussion based on the Torah portion, a compilation of prayers and/or songs on the theme of the Torah portion, or a brief D'var Torah that offers an insight based on the parashah for the week.

Friday, July 1

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES!
Pearie Bruder will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, July 2

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service & Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Sh'lach L'cha Numbers 13:1-15:41

Haftarah Joshua 2:1-24

Friday, July 8

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Revolution and Responsibility.” **Terri Sugarman and Renee Frank will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Ned Rubin will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, July 9

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Korach Numbers 16:1-18:32

Haftarah First Samuel 11:14-12:22

Friday, July 15

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Speak Softly and Leave Your Stick Behind!” **Ann Berkson and Dee Cook will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Mike Lieberman will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, July 16

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Chukat Numbers 19:1-22:1

Haftarah Judges 11:1-33

Friday, July 22

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Curses Foiled...Again!” **Monika Kimball and Alison Mann will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Renee Frank will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, July 23

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Balak-Numbers 22:2-25:9

Haftarah Micah 5:6-6:8

Friday, July 29

7:00 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit, featuring special music and prayers for healing within our Shabbat liturgy. **Carrie Swartz and Win Jacobs will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Ellen Torres will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, July 30

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service led by Leora Zeitlin and Stuart Kelter, followed by a Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Pinchas Numbers 25:10-30:1

Haftarah I Kings 18:46-19:21

Friday, August 5

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES!
Ned Rubin will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, August 6

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service & Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Matot-Mas'ei Numbers 30:2-36:13

Haftarah Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4

If you are interested in supporting Temple Beth-El in acquiring more copies of the new Reform High Holy Day prayerbook, *Mishkan Hanefesh*, please contact Rabbi Karol in early July.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2016-2017

President-Ellen Torres

Vice-President-Ned Rubin

Secretary-Renee Frank

Treasurer-Allen Blum

Ann Berkson Sue Brown Pearie Bruder

Diane Fleishman Michael Lieberman

Susan Michelson Erich Zameret

Jeff Lewis (Mensch Club)

Sisterhood Representative to be designated soon

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21 at 7pm.



Message from Rabbi Karol

I had in mind to write an article about the recent attacks in Tel Aviv on June 9 and then in Orlando, Florida on June 12, and what our response can or should be. In my remarks at the June 12 Candlelight Vigil for the victims of Orlando here in Las Cruces, I told a story about a response that I developed along with a clergy colleague and friend to the first week of the congregation I served in Topeka being picketed by an unfortunately well-known group of extremists who proclaim, whenever they can, what they consider to be "God's hate." Their picketing of Temple Beth Shalom featured a sign bearing my last name, underneath a three letter word with a short "a" in the middle. As I pondered how to turn that word into a positive phrase, my clergy friend suggested that it could be an acronym for the phrase "Faithful and Godly." And so, in all we do as we look at the world, let us be faithful and godly in the spirit of our tradition, which asks of us to love God as God loves us and to be merciful as God is merciful. These two invocations from recent gatherings further express an approach of faithfulness and godliness to the tragedies and conflicts that have befallen the world in recent days. I offer them as a source of comfort and a reminder of our mission as members of an ancient people.

Invocation for Temple Beth-El Board Meeting on Thursday, June 23, 2016

Eternal One,
We are watching intently events in the world around us
Acts of violence,
Wars of words
Conflicts over ideology
In which people try to listen to one another
But their words move past each other
as if they were never heard
Or the desire for power and control
prevents the possibility of mutual understanding.
Is this the world we want to see,
In which a lack of respectful dialogue
Or the absence of a forum for calm expression
of personal views can lead to frustration
Or anger
Or hatred
Or violence
Or, ultimately, suffering and mourning?
What is the world that we want to see?
We want to see a world in which
People will find a way to be
Peaceful and Non-judgmental
Kind and Helpful
Compassionate and balanced;
A world where we are accepting and kind
Generous and caring;
Where differences fall away in the face of the need to be
Embracing and considerate of everyone around us.
We want to see a world in which Your Oneness, O God,
is reflected in our oneness and unity,
where we acknowledge that there is a spark of You
In every person and in every corner of creation.

We want to see a world in which Your power of healing
will empower us to heal ourselves and family, friends, and
neighbors wherever they may be
Who are in need of solace, support and comfort
Help us to use our words and our hearts
To make this world, our world
A world that reflects Your love
And our hope.

Invocation at Jewish Federation of El Paso Annual Meeting on June 14, 2016

Midrash Genesis Rabbah (100:7) states:
Chavurah u-mishpachah Mach hen domim l'chipat avanim
A community and a family are like a pile of stones
At noteil mimenah even achat v'chulah mit'ro-a-at
If you remove one stone, the pile will collapse.
At noteil aleha even achat v'chulah omedet.
If you add a stone to the pile, it will stand.
Eternal One, be with us as we gather to demonstrate
who we are as a combined community
With long-time participants, accomplished and insightful
leaders with many stories to tell,
And newcomers to the organization, who may offer fresh perspectives to an already strong foundation
Of wisdom and commitment.
Remind us that we can strengthen the bonds
that hold us together
As the rabbis suggested in Genesis Rabbah,
By adding new members into our circle
Who can enhance our collective expertise
And by broadening our own horizons
Through the connections we make
with the entire Jewish world.
Teach us that minor conflicts
and even major disagreements
Need not prevent us from joining
minds, hands and hearts
To care about Jews wherever they may live,
And to extend our assistance to people in need
Whatever their background may be
When their distress demands
that we see their plight and act.
Help us, Loving God, to spread your love
at times of celebration
And in moments when individuals
commit acts of violence
That disregard the divine spark in every soul.
Help us to be partners in sustaining creation,
the human family,
and members of Jewish communities
wherever they may be.
May we do this with a generosity of spirit
That will plant seeds of hope everywhere.

L'shalom,
Rabbi Larry K.



President's Message July, 2016

Temple Beth-El has had an eventful two months. First, we held our Annual Congregational Meeting on May 10, elected the new Board as a slate, and approved the ability of the Board to vote electronically when necessary.

Thank you to the Board members whose service has ended—President Monika Kimball, Treasurer Paul Feil, Trustee David Fishman, Sisterhood Rep Leslie Glater, Trustee Mark Saltman, and Mensch Club Rep Dave Zeemont. Thank you to those who are continuing on the Board as well—Trustee Diane Fleishman, new Secretary Renee Frank, new Vice President Ned Rubin, and Trustee Erich Zameret. Congratulations to our newest members: Trustee Sue Brown, Trustee Pearie Bruder, Mensch Club Rep Jeff Lewis, Trustee Michael Lieberman, and Trustee Susan Michelson, and congrats to Trustee Ann Berkson and new Treasurer Allen Blum for their reelection. We are awaiting the selection of a new Sisterhood Rep as well in the coming month. To all of you, your dedication and service to Temple Beth-El is much appreciated! I wholeheartedly welcome this new Board and know we will have a great year.

As the new President, I am looking forward to working with our exceptional Rabbi and dedicated Board of Trustees and Temple leadership. We are all very committed to helping you, our congregation, engage with synagogue life and deepen your involvement with our community.

Other May and June events included holding two successful Social Action Candidate Forums on May 17 and 24 and a successful Sisterhood Rummage Sale on May 22. We also observed the passing of two of our beloved congregants, Abe Pomerantz on May 15 and Marianne Zeitlin on June 4. They will be sorely missed.

Our current Board voted electronically to collect donations for Camp Hope at the Adult Education's "Musical Walk Down Memory Lane" with Rabbi Karol, collecting \$336, and we voted to continue collecting funds throughout June, after which we will present Camp Hope with the total donations.

The Adult Education-sponsored musical event on June 4, with 67 attendees, was a fun-filled night of hit songs from 1966 led by Rabbi Karol's expert guitar playing, singing, and sharing his knowledge of musical history. The Mensch Club, under the able leadership of Jeff Lewis, has already held a couple of meetings and shown the film Berlin 36.

Our congregation observed Shavuot with a dessert and discussion on June 11 and a wonderful service on June 12 followed by a bagel brunch, sponsored by Rabbi and Rhonda Karol. Then, on June 14 a large contingent from our Temple attended the El Paso Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting at Ardovino's Desert Crossing restaurant in Sunland Park to recognize our two members who were elected to the Federation's Board, Bill Stein and Dave Zeemont, and to honor our two Volunteers of the Year, Rebecca Berkson and Aggie Saltman, for all their dedication and work on the JFFF.

On June 18, our congregation celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Saltman with the Saltman family. It was a very special occasion and Jacob did a wonderful job.

Finally, on June 22, the Sisterhood members of our congregation enjoyed a delightful evening at De La Vega's Pecan Grill for the annual Girls' Night Out. Thank you, Sisterhood, for organizing this delicious, communal gathering!

I look forward to you joining me on this year's journey as Temple President. I plan to work collaboratively and calmly through all of our experiences together. I appreciate the relationships we are building as we continue to work together to make Temple Beth-El a vibrant spiritual home with a focus on increasing our Wisdom, Community Spirit, Tzedakah, and Sacred Purpose.

*Shalom,
Ellen Torres*

Adelante Deadline

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the August 2016 Adelante is July 20. The 20th of the month is the monthly deadline. Please do your best to keep to that schedule to facilitate a timely completion of the Adelante!

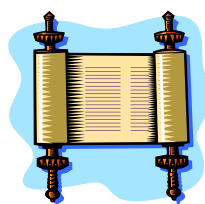
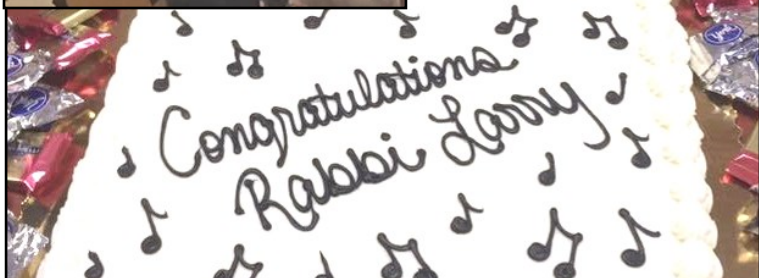
Office Hours

On weekdays, Rabbi Karol is in the office every day except for Thursday. Times vary, but you can mostly count on finding Rabbi Karol in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays at 10:00-11:30 am (and Fridays while he is preparing for Shabbat worship) and on Wednesdays at 11:30am-12:30 pm. Ruth Rubin is volunteering in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00am until 1:00 pm. Please call before you come (575-524-3380), or email Rabbi Karol at rabbikarol@tbelc.org or rablpkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs

"50 years in the Making" - Rabbi Karol presented an evening of songs from 1966 on June 4, 2016, a program which also marked his 35 years in the rabbinate. The Adult Education Committee sponsored the event.



TANAKH STUDY (ISAIAH):

Led by Rabbi Karol on Wednesdays at 10:15-11:20 am (No Sessions on July 20 and July 27)

LAY-LED TALMUD STUDY

Talmud study meets every Saturday in the Social Hall at 9:00 am before the Saturday morning service. Prospective students are welcome. Contact Erich Zameret or Tanah Hemingway for more information.



The newly-formed Las Cruces Interfaith Coalition for Compassion will present an evening of dialogue on the theme of R-E-S-P-E-C-T in all aspects of our lives on Tuesday, July 19 at 7:00 pm. Be watching for more details about this important event!
From Rabbi Karol:

Since December, I have been meeting with several local leaders in the community who are members of a variety of groups and organizations that touch upon issues of faith. We decided to keep meeting with the goal of creating a new coalition that would foster greater understanding and collaborative relationships among members of the Las Cruces community. We have set a date and time (place to be established) for our first program. I hope that members of Temple Beth-El interested in local interreligious dialogue will join us in this effort!

Temple Beth-El Sisterhood's Jewish Women's Spirituality group, led by Susan Lapid, is still meeting periodically.



For more information, contact Susan Lapid 496-5758, sblapid@gmail.com or Leora Zeitlin 639-4475, lzeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu.

Religious School Tzedakah For 2015-2016



Representing the Fourth-Sixth Grader students of Temple Beth-El Religious School, Casey Rosenberg delivered items on June 24, 2016 to "Nurse Lauri" for the use of children who are patients in the Pediatric Ward at Mountain View Medical Center in Las Cruces. The items were purchased from the year-long tzedakah collections among the students of Rhonda Karol and Erich Zameret.

Sarah Mindlin's 2nd-3rd Grade class donated Tzedakah collections to Cowboys for Cancer Research and the University of New Mexico Children's Hospital in Albuquerque.



The Mensch Club met at the home of Jeff and Avis Lewis on Tuesday, June 21 to share lunch and plan programming for the coming months!

Sisterhood Grants Available

The Sisterhood is inviting Temple Beth-El committees to apply for grants for their TBE projects. Committees may request up to \$300 for a project. Last year, Sisterhood provided grants to the religious school for new furniture, to the library, and to the brick garden. Deadline for applications is July 14. If you are interested in requesting a grant and would like a form, please contact Aggie Saltman, at aggie@nmsu.edu.

Temple Beth-El Sisterhood's Girls Night Out was held at De La Vega's Pecan Grill on Wednesday June 22!



Rabbi Karol's Annual Report on Activities in the Community in 2015-2016

Served in leadership positions in local organizations:

Served as Executive Advisor of the NMSU Interfaith Council; completed term as Board President of NM CAFé; served as Board Secretary of Las Cruces Peace Village; convened a monthly clergy breakfast and a discussion series on Karen Armstrong's book, *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life*; joined a group of local leaders in developing the Las Cruces Interfaith Coalition for Compassion; served on the Children's Reading Alliance By-Laws revision committee.

Participated in local and statewide events:

Led singing at Las Cruces Peace Camp on July 20-24, 2015; met with Las Cruces Public Schools officials (along with Temple parents) about Jewish concerns in September, 2015; took part in the Peace Village International Day of Peace Vigil on September 20, 2015; helped to organize the "Creativity for Peace" program at Temple Beth-El on October 14, 2015; participated on a "History of the Jewish community in Las Cruces" panel at the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society conference on November 15, 2015; delivered the closing prayer at the NAACP Martin Luther King, Jr. commemorative march on January 17, 2016; spoke at a commemoration of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision on January 22, 2016; led singing and participated in Peace Village's Intergenerational Peace Camp at the Munson Center on March 16, 2016; delivered the keynote address on April 15, 2016 at the White Sands Missile Range Holocaust Remembrance program; sang "Eili, Eili" at the El Paso Yom Hashoah Commemoration on Sunday, May 1, 2016; sounded the shofar at the El Paso Israel Independence Day celebration on May 15, 2016; sang at the El Paso Lag Ba-Omer music program on May 26, 2016; gave remarks at the Candlelight Vigil for victims of the Orlando shooting on June 12, 2016; delivered the invocation at the El Paso Jewish Federation Annual Meeting on June 14, 2016; gave a presentation at First Christian Church on Sunday, June 26, 2016 with readings and music; led music at Las Cruces Peace Camp on June 27-July 1; attended statewide leadership summit, "Common Ground for the Common Good," in Albuquerque on June 29, 2016.

Gave presentations on Judaism in the community:

Presented on Judaism to 6th Graders at Mesa Middle School on October 22, 2015; presented on Chanukah at

the Las Cruces Public Schools advanced pre-school on December 10, 2015; presented on Tu Bish'vat at J. Paul Taylor School on January 29, 2016; led an Interfaith Seder for Justice and Peace at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on Thursday, March 24, 2016; met with a group at Unity Church of Las Cruces on March 29, 2016 to discuss the book, *The God Code*, by Gregg Braden; met with Confirmation students from St. Paul's United Methodist Church who attended our Saturday, April 9, 2016 Shabbat morning service.

Participated in national conventions: Attended New-CAJE, a convention for Jewish educators, at University of Hartford in West Hartford, CT on July 31-August 5, 2015; the Biennial Convention of the Union for Reform Judaism in Orlando, Florida on November 3-8, 2015; and Songleader Boot Camp in St. Louis, Missouri on February 14-16, 2016.

Original writings featured in local and national publications and featured in media reports/stories:

featured in the *El Paso Times* of September 1, 2015 in photos of the "Shofars Across Borders" event of August 30, 2015 sponsored by the El Paso Jewish Federation at Border Monument #1; featured as Artist of the Week in the *Las Cruces Sun-News* on September 6, 2015 (article also in the *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* on October 8, 2015); original piece on Chanukah featured in the *Las Cruces Sun-News* on December 8, 2015 and in the *Las Cruces Bulletin* on December 10, 2015; "Message of Hope" featured along with other clergy on December 25, 2015 in the *Las Cruces Sun-News*; comments featured in the December 26, 2015 *Las Cruces Sun-News* article "Volunteers spread holiday cheer" about TBE serving breakfast at Camp Hope on December 25, 2015; pictured in the March 7, 2016 article in the *Las Cruces Sun-News* about the "Face-to-Face" video created by Kaleidoscope; featured in the article "Munson Senior Center Hosts Peace Camp" (including a photo) in the *Las Cruces Sun-News* on March 18, 2016; column on Passover in the April, 2016 issue of the *El Paso Jewish Voice*; Rabbi's column in the *El Paso Jewish Voice* for May, 2016 focused on Pesach, Yom Hashoah, Yom Ha'atzmaut and the Torah reading Kedoshim (Holiness); column, "Golden Rule Applies to Neighbors Near and Far," featured in the May 13, 2016 issue of the *Las Cruces Bulletin*.





***There is still plenty of room for your brick!!!!
The Biblical Garden and
Brick Walkway Committee***



Temple Beth-El Committee Chairs 2016-2017

Acquisitions, Specific Gifts, Aesthetics: Michele Blum
 Adult Education: Ruth Rubin/Rose Jacobs
 Biblical Garden & Brick Walkway: Alison Mann
 Budget: Steve Halper
 Building & Grounds: Jerry Silverman/Norm Mazer/Jeff Lewis
 Cemetery: Diane Fleishman
 Dues: Michael Mandel
 Library: Linda Kruger
 Long Range/Strategic Planning: Allen Blum
 Marketing & Public Relations: Terri Sugarman
 Membership & Outreach: Diane Fleishman and Leslie Glater
 Mensch Club: Jeff Lewis
 Nominating: Jim Rosenthal
 Religious Practices: Jeff Lewis
 Religious School: Pearie Bruder
 Security: Mark Saltman
 Sisterhood: Sisterhood Council
 Social Action: Ned Rubin
 Technology: Dave Zeemont
 Website: Bob Kimball
 Ways and Means: Lionel Jacobs
 Youth Activities: Julie Seton



At the Jewish Federation of El Paso Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, Aggie Saltman and Rebecca Berkson of Temple Beth-El were among the Volunteers of the Year recognized by Jewish organizations in the El Paso/Las Cruces area. Aggie and Rebecca were selected to represent Temple Beth-El after chairing three successful years of our Jewish Food and Folk Festival fundraiser.

During the meeting, Rabbi Karol delivered the invocation (see page 3) and Federation leaders formally (and informally) welcomed our congregation and community into this now regional organization. Congregants Bill Stein and Dave Zeemont were elected as new Board members of the Federation. Temple Beth-El was well represented at the Annual Meeting. Be watching for more information through email and in the Adelante about programs in which our congregation will participate.



Dr. Harry and Diane Bass thank everyone for their donations, cards, and thoughtful and kind visits to "Uncle Abe" (Abe Pomerantz). He thoroughly enjoyed your presence and conversation. Thanks also to all who participated in his service.

ISRAEL UPDATE**Botanizing in the Middle East: a Welcome Reality Break by Phil Alkon**

Media depictions of events relating to Israel are disturbing indeed, but often misrepresent life and relationships on the ground. Case in point is the following first-hand account of a trip to Jordan by two Israeli botanists. The writer is Linda Whittaker, a former colleague at Ben-Gurion University and her companion is Avi Shmida, Emeritus Prof at Hebrew University. Both are outstanding scientists and a bit eccentric, not an unusual combination. The venue of their visit is the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, one of only two Arab states (with Egypt) formally at peace with Israel. Jordan is an original member of the Arab League that has fought Israel in two major wars. Over recent years, the two countries have engaged a growing array of scientific, environmental and security collaborations. Here is an abridged version of Linda's letter. Enjoy.

Hi all,

I got back from Jordan on Tuesday evening and am finally settling back to normal again. It's amazing how disorienting even a short trip like that can be. Of course it was a very intense trip.

Avi Shmida picked me up at 5:30 am on Sunday morning for our drive to the border crossing at Bet Shean/Sheikh Hussein, a two-hour drive. It was quite hot and I was grateful not to do this by public bus, as I did the last time.

The crossing to Jordan was smooth, and as soon as we got to the Jordanian side, Avi started nattering to everyone in Arabic, I guess to brush up on his Jordanian Arabic after a long absence. He had done 3 years of research in Jordan in the past and gotten fluent, but was rusty. He talked to the taxi driver all the way to Umm Qais and I could hear him picking up speed as the Arabic came back to him.

The Jordanians were amused....I guess his Hebrew accented Arabic is pretty funny, but it sure opened doors for us on this trip. His liking for Jordanians got response in kind everywhere we went, and he came home with a pocketful of telephone numbers from Bedouin in tents.....

We got to Umm Qais and the Dig House (Beit Malkawi) well before lunch, so we had time to settle in and think about next steps. This was when Avi started going into overdrive. I had just planned on a look around the first day. He went for sampling and in fact we got 7 relevees (vegetation samples) done between 4 and 7 pm. Having gotten up at 3 am, I was beat after that and turned in but Avi continued to work.

We went out again at 4:30 the next morning (these early hours are partly to beat the heat) and by 10 am I got all the samples I'd needed on this trip. Our driver/photographer/archaeologist/guide dug in her heels at that point and refused to go out for more field sampling that afternoon. So I worked on notes and Avi went to look at the ruins of Gadera.....

I decided that since I got the data I needed already, that I should turn Avi loose to look at whatever he liked; and he arranged to go with our guide the next morning at 8 am.....but before that he found me in the office writing at 7 am. So he sat down with me and dictated a 3 page geobotanical overview of northern Jordan, before breakfast. Ya' Allah!! I never wrote an article before breakfast before. So Avi went off to do more scouting while I put things in order, but we agreed our work was done and we could go home that afternoon – two days ahead of schedule. I was grateful for that – at my age I sleep best in my own bed and I missed my cats and cottage. That's not to say the Dig House isn't splendid, for it is.

This is an old Turkish family mansion built around a huge courtyard, and a Jordanian national historic site in its own right. It has been modified for the work – two sides are living quarters, one side has the offices and the home for the guard/handyman and his wife the cook, one side has storage of the archaeological finds, and a modern bathhouse block was installed (we are talking about a German project after all). One can live there quite comfortably, and the cook is excellent; we dined like wealthy Jordanians every day. Fruits, vegetables, laffa bread, labaneh, yoghurt, salads, rice, chicken and ground lamb are the mainstays, with strong coffee on tap and the occasional baklava.

No suffering except it was Ramadan and we could not eat in the field. (Jordanian law forbids eating, drinking or smoking in public during daylight hours and you can be fined or jailed if someone reports you....even Palestinians think that is way too extreme. The second day we did pack our breakfast and took a break hiding in an olive grove to eat it....but heard the tinkle of goat bells and had to scamper before we were caught. There I was with coffee and a sandwich, hiding like I was smoking Maryjane.....an interesting cultural experience.

We met lots of farmers and Bedouin, and Avi's funny Arabic opened many doors. Nobody was hostile although I am sure from his accent Avi was obviously an Israeli. In fact we were received even more warmly than on my previous trip to Jordan. Even the security officers were nice to us, and guided us around blocked areas like the idiots they must have thought we were. (That part of Jordan borders Israel and Syria, and the Jordanian military there are extremely nervous....I don't blame them.)

I came away from this trip with an impression of the beauty of Jordan despite its poverty and the rampant uncontrolled development. There are beautiful Tabor oak woodlands on the hills, real steppe on the slopes, deep canyons and springs. This area is the Gilead of the Bible, famous for its cattle and its forests. One could learn to love this landscape. Avi obviously does and it was an education for me to be with him.

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Temple Board of Trustees Meeting Summary June 23, 2016

The Board of Trustees met on Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm. President Ellen Torres welcomed everyone to our new 2016-2017 Board, congratulating newest members: Sue Brown, Pearie Bruder, Jeff Lewis (Mensch Club Rep), Michael Lieberman, and Susan Michelson, and also extending congratulations to Ann Berkson and Allen Blum for their reelection. She also welcomed guests Michele Blum, Dee Cook (representing Sisterhood), and Steve Halper, as well as new TBE congregation members Lionel and Rose Jacobs. The president's report included a new item that has come to the attention of the Board, in that several of the trolley mechanisms that allow the doors between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall to be moved on their tracks are failing and will likely be fairly expensive to fix. Options for repairs are being explored, and will be brought to the next Board of Trustees meeting. Here are some notable discussions and actions at the meeting.

Michele Blum, Chair of the Acquisitions, Special Gifts, and Aesthetics Committee, reported that progress is being made on a recommendation for new front doors for the Temple that will add to the beauty and reverence of the building while meeting all safety codes.

Allen Blum, Treasurer, reported on the Verizon proposal to lease Temple roof space for their booster towers. Since being approached last February, progress has been made in working out details on the placement of the booster towers such that they won't interfere with the aesthetic outlines of the building, as well as on the lease agreement itself. The Board of Trustees has voted to move forward on the project, and he reported that we are now ready to sign the lease agreement. The lease will provide \$3,600 in income to the Temple each year for 5 years, and can be extended for up to 20 years. With anticipated increases in the lease payments, it is expected that the Temple may receive as much as \$90,000 in income over 20 years from the lease agreement.

The Board voted to move forward on the Mensch Club's proposal to once again participate in the Renaissance Fair in November, sharing a booth with the Center for Spiritual Living. Their proposal is to sell pastrami sandwiches and perhaps other items on Sunday, November 6, while the Center for Spiritual Living will use the booth on Saturday to sell their own food items. More information will be forthcoming at the next Board meeting.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings are posted on the TBE website, www.tbcl.org. Congregation members are invited to join us at our next Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday, July 21, 2016, at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall.

Submitted by Renee Frank

Israel Update—continued from Page 9

Although I have known Avi for decades, we have not worked together since the 1980's. He is without doubt the best plant geographer in the Middle East, and I was in awe of the synthesis he was able to do in such a short time, of the relation of vegetation, soils, geology, and disturbance. No way could I have done it; I'm just enough of a geobotanist myself to appreciate his professional skill – and I made every effort to praise him too. After all he was on this trip gratis, doing it for fun with only his travel expenses covered, and he worked himself into the ground.

By the time we got back to the border crossing, Avi was exhausted and almost staggering; even the border guards were a bit concerned for him. But I figured this must be in part sugar depletion, and pumped him up again with Coca cola and candy bars (a nasty way to do it but this does work) so that he could do the two hour drive home. He managed, but I bet he slept for 24 hours after that. This trip was so exciting for him that he had spent most of it on an emotional high and one cannot do that for very long.

Overall, that was a most remarkable trip and I was lucky to have this experience.

Ongoing Events at TBE



WEEKLY TEMPLE BREAKFAST

Weekly breakfasts and discussions of topics of Jewish and general are held at the Temple every Wednesday morning. Breakfast begins at 8:45 am, speaker presentations begin at 9:00 am. The cost is \$2.00 weekly or \$6.00 monthly. Please contact Phil Alkon for information at philipalkon@gmail.com or 575-524-6945)



KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting group will not meet in June, July and August. For more information, please contact Deana Kessin at 521-4077 or Kessin@comcast.net.

MAH JONG

Mah Jong will not meet in June, July and August.

Month for Camp Hope

Thank you to those who contributed to our effort to raise funds for Camp Hope in June. We collected \$336 at the June 4 Adult Education event, and more donations were collected in our Temple tzedakah box. Your generosity for this important cause is appreciated!

THE CHESED GROUP

Is here for members in need of assistance due to health issues.

Please CALL well in advance:

- **David Zeemont at 523-0913 if you need transportation to a medical appointment**
- **Sally Alkon at 524-6945 if you need transportation or someone to shop for food**
- **TBE office at 524-3380 if you would like a hospital visit from Rabbi Karol**
- **TBE office at 524-3380 if you do not drive and need a ride to Temple services.**

If you are interested in being a coordinator/helper/driver for services or temple events, please call Dave Zeemont at 523-0913



***Ladies Clothing Contributions for
La Tienda de Jardin***

La Tienda de Jardin, located at 335 La Colonia Ave (at the southwest corner of Alameda and Main St), would greatly appreciate contributions of ladies clothing, jewelry, shoes, handbags and

household items. La Tienda does the following very well:

- It supports Jardin de Los Ninos, a local charity that takes care of homeless and near homeless children and families.
- Purchases help mostly working women dress appropriately at a fair price.
- The donations help those who donate keep their closets tidy while doing a good deed.
- Items not sold are given to other charities and nothing goes to a landfill.

If you have not visited us, please do. We are open Monday-Friday, 10am to 5pm and Saturday at 10am to 2pm. If a pick-up would help you make your donation or you need more information, please call the Temple office.

Tzedakah Opportunities at TBE
***Giving to Casa de Peregrinos
& El Caldito***

Here are longer lists for items needed!

For Casa de Peregrinos:

Peanut Butter and the following Canned foods: Corn, Green Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Fruits, Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Tuna, Beans, and Meats

For El Caldito:

Spices, Regular Mayonnaise, Beans, Beef and Chicken Soup Stock

Casa de Peregrinos provides staple foods to the needy, and El Caldito provides a hot meal 365 days a year to the hungry in our community. Both organizations are part of the Community of Hope located on the same campus at 999 W. Amador. There are common interests and goals and the food received is often shared between the two organizations in order to best utilize both perishable and non-perishable foods. Please bring something for one or both of these organizations. For more information or questions, contact the Temple office.

VISITING CONGREGANTS
WHO ARE ILL OR HOME-BOUND

At Temple Beth-El, we depend on you, our members, to inform us if you know of someone who needs a visit, especially if they are in a hospital or a rehabilitation or assisted living facility, and also if they are not able to leave their homes due to health-related issues. In order for us to keep our list of who needs a visit current, we ask you to call or email Rabbi Karol (rabbi@tbelc.org) with the names of congregants who you know would like to be visited. We appreciate your cooperation in this area, so that we can be, as much as possible, a truly caring community.

Donations for June 2016

General Fund

- Stacy & Michael Hyman, in memory of Aaron Hyman
- Grace Hammesfahr, in memory of Irv Rothman
- Cheryl and Bob Marians, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Deana Kessin, in memory of Abe Pomerantz and Marianne Zeitlin
- Lila Ziegler, in memory of Rita Berger
- Gary & Madeline Wilks, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Dee Cook, in memory of Marianne Zeitlin
- Bea Klein, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Matilde Galban-Richardson, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Robert & Shirley Wilbee, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Allen & Eve Palanker, in memory of Hilda Bortnick, Eve's grandmother
- Dia Taylor, in memory of Doris Schroeder
- Tim & Mary Lou Arend, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Ann & Burt Berkson, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Carl & Joan Rawson, in memory of Abe Pomerantz

Religious School Fund

- Jim Rosenthal and Marianne Panzini-Rosenthal, in honor of Jacob Saltman becoming Bar Mitzvah
- Ramon and Frima Marquez, in memory of Abe Pomerantz
- Elaine Szalay, in memory of Abe Pomerantz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Daniel and Simy Allan, in memory of Marianne Zeitlin
- Daniel and Simy Allen, in memory of Irving Benowitz and Abe Pomerantz
- Rita Polsky, in memory of Luba Klaitman
- Norm & Sue Mazer, in memory of Dorothy Schlisman
- Teddy Weinglass, in memory of Leonard D. Weinglass
- Jeff & Avis Lewis, in memory of Jerome Herman
- Allen & Eve Palanker
- Cherri Hudson-Brown and Jeffrey Brown

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane Adult Education Fund

- June & Brad Jenkins, in memory of Beatrice Mintz

Frances F. Williams Library Fund

- Frank & Louise Baskey, in memory of Siebert Feldman
- Linda Kruger, in memory of Abe Pomerantz and Marianne Zeitlin

Beth-El Temple Youth (BETY & BEMY)

- Mitzie Schoeppner, in memory of Abe Pomerantz

Biblical Garden Brick Walkway Fund

- Alison and Gary Mann, in memory of Abe Pomerantz and Marianne Zeitlin
- Michele & Allen Blum, in memory of Mollie Segal, Michele's grandmother
- Michele & Allen Blum, in memory of Abe Pomerantz

TEMPLE FUNDS—From the Treasurer

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

General Operating Fund—For the day-to-day operation of TBE.

Fund 2004—For upkeep on our new building.

Biblical Garden Construction Fund—To provide the infrastructure for biblical plants and trees, and bricks in the fountain meditation area. Goal: \$6,000.

Campership Fund Scholarship—Providing scholarships for Temple students to attend Jewish summer camp programs.

Community Service Fund—For projects that benefit our community and Las Cruces and Southern New Mexico.

Send a Kid to Israel Program (S.K.I.P. Fund)—To send Temple youth to Israel.

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund—To support Jewish education for our children (especially need-based scholarships).

Frances Williams Library Fund—To provide books and infrastructure for the TBE library.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—Rabbi Karol uses the Discretionary Fund to meet a variety of philanthropic requests as well as to supplement TBE programs.

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane Adult Education Fund—Provides funds to help further adult education and cultural programming at TBE.

Security Fund—provides support for the purchase of expanded security equipment for the Temple premises.

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund—Supports the regular and special programming planned by faculty, students and the Religious School Committee.

Beth El Temple Youth Fund—Support for Youth activities at TBE.

Periodically the temple may list short-term projects or needs. Contributions that do not specify a project or fund will be added to the General Operating Fund. If you have a question or wish to contribute to a project not listed here, please contact our Temple Beth-El Treasurer, Allen Blum.



Honor the memory of loved ones with a memorial plaque and mark celebrations and milestones (and also the memory of friends and family) by



adding leaves to our Tree of Life and by adding bricks to our Brick Walkway.

JULY 2016 (SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5776)**Yahrzeits-July 3, 2016 through
August 6, 2016****Read on Friday, July 1 and Saturday, July 2**

Jerome Batkin*, Relative of Mike Batkin
 Richard Batkin*, Relative of Mike Batkin
 Ruben Kasten*
 Clara Kleiner, Grandmother of Rachel Stevens
 Miriam Kuznekoff*, Mother of Chuck Kuznekoff
 Nathan Mandel, Father of Michael Mandel
 Beatrice Mintz, Mother of June Jenkins
 Steven R. Pasternack*

Read on Friday, July 8 and Saturday, July 9

Bernard Cutler, Father of Michele Blum
 Lena M Schwartz, Mother of Burton Schwartz
 Benjamin D Siegel*
 Kristin Meidell, daughter of Patricia and Sol Selanikio
 Barbara Orner, Wife of Ralph Orner
 Asher Segen*
 Max Taub*
 Ralph Holiday, Father of Marjorie Gordon

Read on Friday, July 15 and Saturday, July 16

Henrietta Horowitz, Grandmother of Ellen Torres
 Rachelle Petrowski*, Mother of Jack Petrowsky
 Harold Nachison, Father of Jerry Nachison
 Sarah Meltzer Smalley*, Mother of Alison Mann
 Leo Steinborn*, Father of Mark Steinborn
 Ruth Frank, Mother of Lester Frank
 Roslyn Rice*
 Jennie Frank*
 Milton Berkson*, Father of Burt Berkson

Read on Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23

Zachery Shporer, Nephew of Barney and Ruth Ann Sugarman, cousin of Terri Sugarman
 Dora Stern*(Shaina Devorah Bat Aaron and Gittel), Mother of Ann Berkson, Grandmother of Arthur Berkson
 Raymond Gettleman, Stepfather of Sally Sicherman
 Ludwig Paul Bergman, Grandfather of Nancy Bergman
 Joseph Okin, Uncle of Gerie Muchnikoff
 Natalie E. Libby, Mother of Bob Libby
 Marcia Rabinovich, Wife of David Rabinovich

Read on Friday, July 29 and Saturday, July 30

Dorothy Whitley, Aunt of Dee Cook
 Josephine Glater, Mother of Leslie Glater
 Diane Gutman, Sister of Allen Palanker
 Jacob Krasner*, Father of Frima Marquez, Grandfather of Jeffrey Marquez
 Kathryn Goldstein, Mother of Wendee Lorbeer
 Gertrude Kalmanowitz, Mother of Sally Sicherman
 Arnold Heart, Uncle of Nancy Bergman

Read on Friday, August 5 and Saturday, August 6

Joseph Rosenfeld*
 David Williamson, Uncle of Barbara Mandel
 Burton Zuckerman*
 Lakie bat Aaron v'Katya, Aunt of Ann Berkson
 Anne H Bergman, Mother of Nancy Bergman
 Manny Blumkin*
 Lillian Krasner*, Mother of Frima Marquez, Grandmother of Jeffrey Marquez
 Ellie Greenberg, Aunt of Cyrille Kane
 Shana Sicherman, Daughter of Sally Sicherman

***The Temple Beth-El Family
extends condolences to:***

***Leora Zeitlin, Stuart Kelter and their family
on the death of Leora's mother,
Marianne Zeitlin,
on June 4, 2016 in Las Cruces.***

***Mark and Aggie Saltman and family
on the death of Mark's uncle,
Brad Saltman,
on June 24, 2016 in Albuquerque,
New Mexico.***

May their memories be for blessing.

In order to ensure that the name of your loved one will be recited during services, we have instituted the following practices:


- The Hebrew dates for each week's Yahrzeits are listed in each Newsletter.
- Hebrew vs. conventional calendar: The temple's tradition is to base the Yahrzeits list on the Hebrew calendar. Those who wish to have a name read on a Friday night close to the conventional calendar date are asked to please email or call the administrator a few days prior to the service.

*Asterisks at left indicate that a loved one has been permanently memorialized with a plaque in the Temple sanctuary. If you are interested in acquiring a plaque for your loved one, contact the Temple office.



HAIR DESIGNS
522-3959 (next to the Hilton)
 Telshor Tower Plaza, 755 Telshor Blvd., Bldg. C, Ste. 201, Las Cruces, NM

Temple Beth-El is on Facebook!
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Temple-Beth-El/115816285166004>
 If you are on Facebook already, find our page, click "Like" and join us in our Facebook community!
 Visit the Temple Beth-El Website—www.tbcl.org for in-depth information about Temple and its programming and updates on current Temple events

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JULY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Sivan 25 1 Family Shabbat Service - 6:00 pm, with Great American Sing-Along Dairy Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm	Sivan 26 2 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Sivan 27 3	Sivan 28 4	Sivan 29 5	Sivan 30 6 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am	Tammuz 1 7	Tammuz 2 8 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Tammuz 3 9 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tammuz 4 10	Tammuz 5 11	Tammuz 6 12	Tammuz 7 13 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am	Tammuz 8 14	Tammuz 9 15 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Tammuz 10 16 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tammuz 11 17	Tammuz 12 18 <i>The Soul of Jewish Social Justice</i> Part 2 7:00 pm	Tammuz 13 19	Tammuz 14 20 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am	Tammuz 15 21 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Tammuz 16 22 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Tammuz 17 23 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tammuz 18 24 Forum on Poverty 1:30-4:30 pm	Tammuz 19 25	Tammuz 20 26	Tammuz 21 27 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am	Tammuz 22 28	Tammuz 23 29 Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:00 pm	Tammuz 24 30 Talmud Study 9:00 am Lay-led Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tammuz 25 31	Tammuz 26 Aug. 1	Tammuz 27 2	Tammuz 28 3 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am	Tammuz 29 4	Av 1 5 Family Shabbat Service - 6:00 pm Dairy Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm	Av 2 6 Talmud Study 9:00 am Lay-led Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am

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The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol. Copy Editors: James Rosenthal, Tanah Hemingway. Circulation: Administration Office. We welcome Adelante sponsorships by or for Temple members and non-members. Sponsorships can be mailed to the Temple; receipts are provided upon request. We reserve the right to edit all sponsorships. Nonmember sponsorships \$25/year. One month sponsorship insertions \$108. Annual sponsorship rates as follows: 2x3 business card \$150; Quarter page \$300; Half page \$600. For information about sponsorships or insertions, please contact the Temple Office.

**Temple Beth-El and “Adelante” are on the web at
www.tbelc.org**

July, 2016



**Temple Beth-El
3980 Sonoma Springs Avenue
Las Cruces, NM 88011**